DSP 3.1 Grazing System Water Development

Purpose

1. Improve or maintain desired species composition and vigor of plant community.
2. Improve or maintain surface and/or subsurface water quality and quantity.
3. Improve or maintain riparian and watershed function.
4. Reduce accelerated soil erosion and maintain or improve soil condition.

Applicability

Applies to pastureland where permanent vegetative cover is established and can be enhanced through the use of a planned grazing system. The system operator must follow an approved grazing system plan. The system operator must attend an approved grazing school provided by University of Missouri, in conjunction with NRCS, prior to the district's submittal of a contract for review.

Erosion Requirements

Practice has no erosion requirements.

Specifications

The completed practice must meet the NRCS Standards and Specifications for Critical Area Planting (342), Pond (378), Fence (382), Access Control (472), Prescribed Grazing (528), and Water Well (642) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Policies

1. Cooperators must have an approved grazing plan prior to contract board approval.
   a. A system may be approved for land where livestock do not currently graze; however, the district must verify that the system is in use for or by livestock within the first year after meeting the Prescribed Grazing (528) standard and specifications.
   b. After a grazing plan is developed, grazing practices may be installed independently of one another to work towards its implementation.
      1) Cost-share payments will be authorized as each practice is completed, according to NRCS standards and specifications within the grazing plan.
   c. The entire grazing system must meet the standard and specifications for Prescribed Grazing (528) within three years after payment of the first contract or the entire amount of cost-share received must be repaid. The district should give funding priority to cooperators working toward the Prescribed Grazing (528) standard and specifications.
   d. The size and number of paddocks will be determined by the grazing system plan, which must be designed for appropriate grazing height and rest periods as listed in the NRCS "Grazing Management Guidelines." The planner and district should encourage the cooperator to develop an effective system that meets the program's and cooperator's

objectives, and enables the cooperator to stay in compliance. There is no time limit for adding to existing systems.

2. ***Wells***
   a. It is not required that wells constructed under this practice be utilized solely for livestock watering.
   b. All new wells must be registered according to state requirements.
3. ***Cost-share is authorized for:***
   a. Water source development (well or pond) for a planned grazing system.
   b. The least cost alternative, based on the size and type of water source needed. Consideration must be given to existing water sources. If a water source exists, documentation explaining further development of the current source or need for another source of water must be entered in MoSWIMS.
   c. Pond and well construction for all newly approved grazing systems, in addition to existing systems that meet NRCS standards and specifications for Prescribed Grazing, (528). Construction of a water source will only be allowed on an existing system if paddock numbers are increased or if acreage is added so that the existing water source is no longer adequate.
   d. Pond reconstruction if deemed the least cost alternative.
   e. Well reconstruction if deemed the least cost alternative.

Maximum State Cost-Share

1. Assistance is limited to 75% of the established county cost, not to exceed the state average cost.
2. Maximum of $95.00 per acre. The acres to be considered for the maximum will be the acreage within the paddocks served by the water source.
3. Utilize the Practice Limits Detail report in MoSWIMS to ensure compliance with applicable maximums.

Map Requirements

1. A CMT Map Number must be entered prior to contract review. The map must show the following information that pertains to the contract:
   - Farm Perimeter
   - Acreage Completed under DSP 3.4 and/or DSP 3.5
   - Location of Power Source
   - System Acreage
   - Field Numbers (use the "Point" tool)
   - Any other feature that may affect the contract practice or grazing system.
2. Planned items must be shown and labeled with the fiscal year to be installed.
   - Planned Fence
   - Planned Pipeline

- Planned Water Tanks/Hydrants
- Planned Water Supply
- Planned Lime Application
- Planned Seeding Application

3. Existing items must be labeled with the fiscal year installed and funding source (EQIP, SWCP, etc.).

   - Existing Fence
   - Existing Water Supply
   - Existing Pipeline
   - Existing Water Tanks/Hydrants

4. A map that displays the completed practice must be scanned and attached as a "Map Document" in MoSWIMS prior to contract payment submission.

Technical Responsibilities
Technical staff has the responsibility for determining the need for the practice, for design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary, and to certify that the completed practice meets NRCS standards and specifications within commission policy.

Acres Served
Acreage within the paddocks serviced by the water source, excluding heavily forested acreage.

Extent Installed
Acres.

Maintenance Life
10 years.